

WHAT THE ALL JAMMU & KASHMIR PRAJA PARISHAD STANDS FOR:

1. Immediate application of the Constitution of India in its entirety to this State like other Part B States of India, with Maharaja as Constitutional Head.
2. Setting up of duly elected Legislature for the State.
3. In the interest of security no demilitarization of Indian Army from the State.
4. Full faith in, adherence to and support for India's Policy and stand with regard to Kashmir.
5. Proper rehabilitation of all displaced persons and restoration of normal conditions.
6. Speedy arrangements for equipping the people to defend themselves and the country against the growing menace of Pakistani jehad and raids.
7. No arbitration, no plebiscite under the Amended Anglo-American Resolution.

DURGA DASS VARMA

General Secretary

All Jammu & Kashmir Praja Parishad
Jammu.

The Janta Press Jammu.

TEXT OF THE LETTER OF MAHARAJA HARISINGH
TO LORD MOUNTBATTEN, THE GOVERNOR GENERAL
OF INDIA, CONTAINING HIS DECISION REGARDING
ACCESSION OF THE STATE TO INDIA.

26th. Oct. 1947

My dear Lord Mountbatten,

I have to inform Your Excellency that a grave emergency has arisen in my State and request immediate assistance of your Government.

As Your Excellency is aware the State of Jammu and Kashmir has not acceded to either the Dominion of India or to Pakistan. Geographically my State is contiguous to both the dominions. It has vital economical and cultural links with both of them. Besides, my State has a common boundary with the Soviet Republics and China. In their external relations the Dominions of India and Pakistan cannot ignore this fact.

I wanted to take time to decide to which Dominion I should accede, whether it is not in the best interest of both the Dominions and my State to stand independent, of course with friendly and cordial relations with both.

I accordingly approached the Dominions of India and Pakistan to enter into a *standstill agreement* with my State. The Pakistan Government accepted this arrangement. The Dominion of India desired further discussion with representatives of my Government. I could not arrange this in view of the developments indicated below. In fact the

Pakistan Government under the standstill agreement are operating Post and Telegraph system inside the State.

Though we have got a stand-still agreement with the Pakistan Government, that Government permitted steady and increasing strangulation of supplies like food, salt and petrol to my State.

Afridis, soldiers in plain clothes, and desperadoes, with modern weapons, have been allowed to infiltrate into the State at first in Poonch area, then in Sialkot and finally in mass in the area adjoining Hazara district on the Ramkot side. The result has been that the limited number of troops at the disposal of the State had to be dispersed and thus had to face the enemy at several points simultaneously that it has become difficult to stop the wanton destruction of life and property and looting. The Mahoora Power House which supplies the electric current to the whole of Srinagar has been burnt. The number of women who have been kidnapped and raped makes my heart bleed. The wild forces thus let loose on the State are marching on with the aim of capturing Srinagar, the summer capital of my Government, as a first step to overrunning the whole State.

The mass infiltration of tribesmen drawn from the distant areas of the N.W.F. Province coming regularly in motor trucks using Mansehra-Muzaffarabad road and fully armed with up-to-date weapons cannot possibly be done without the knowledge of the Provincial Government of the N.W.F. Province and the Government of Pakistan. In spite of repeated appeals made by my Government no attempt has been made to check these raiders or stop them

from coming to my State. In fact both the Pakistan Radio and Press have reported these occurrences. The Pakistan Radio even put out a story that a provisional Government has been set up in Kashmir. The people of my State both the Muslims and non-Muslims generally have taken no part at all.

With the conditions obtaining at present in my State and the great emergency of the situation as it exists I have no option but to ask for help from the Indian Dominion. Naturally they cannot send the help asked for by me without my State acceding to the Dominion of India. I have accordingly decided to do so and I attach the Instrument of Accession for acceptance by your Government. The other alternative is to leave my State and my people to freebooters. On this basis no civilised Government can exist or be maintained. This alternative I will never allow to happen so long as I am the Ruler of the State and I have life to defend my country.

I may also inform your Excellency's Government that it is my intention at once to set up an interim Government and ask Sheikh Abdullah to carry the responsibilities in this emergency with my Prime Minister.

If my state has to be saved immediate assistance must be available at Srinagar. Mr. Menon is fully aware of the situation and he will explain to you if further explanation is needed.

In haste and with kindest regards.

Sd. Hari Singh.

*A photocopy of the Instrument of Accession of Jammu and Kashmir State
signed by Maharaja Hari Singh and
the Governor-General of India Mountbatten of Burma*

INSTRUMENT OF ACCESSION OF Jammu and Kashmir STATE

WHEREAS the Indian Independence Act, 1947, provides that as from the fifteenth day of August, 1947, there shall be set up an independent Dominion known as INDIA, and that the Government of India Act, 1935, shall with such omissions, additions, adaptations and modifications as the Governor-General may by order specify be applicable in the Dominion of India;

AND WHEREAS the Government of India Act 1935, as so adapted by the Governor-General provides that an Indian State may accede to the Dominion of India by an Instrument of Accession executed by the Ruler thereof: